
The Inverness "I"

Vol. 10. No. 4.

October 2019

From The Editors

There is something about the fall that excites us. When complaining about the summer heat and her boredom, Jordan Baker, a character in F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, said "Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall." Life does seem to begin again in the fall. For many of us, fall symbolized starting back to school or college, meeting old friends, making new friends, experiencing new adventures. It was a time of anticipation.

And so it is here in Inverness Village. We began our fall adventure with a wine and cheese event at the Community Center. Tables were gayly decorated with wine bottles topped with candles and covered with cloths in fall colors. Conversation was brisk as we reconnected after the summer and sensed the beginning of events to come. Next, we continued our tradition of bocce night as neighbors shared appetizers and enjoyed competing against each other in friendly rivalries.

Now the adventure continues as Inverness ladies will enjoy their traditional fall luncheon at the Country Club in November. A highlight of the season, the luncheon is an elegant event.

With the approaching holiday season, Inverness residents can look forward to attending the Paoli Hospital Auxiliary Tree Lighting and to enjoying the lovely decorations around Hershey's Mill, including the festive decorations in our village.

And all our anticipation that began in the fall will culminate in the Holiday Gala to be held at the Community Center. There will be a new caterer and a new musician to help us perform our traditional singing of *The Twelve Days of Christmas*. We'll enjoy dining and singing together as we celebrate the season and anticipate the new year and new adventures.

Carol Ellis

From The Village President

The Master Association meeting of July 11, 2019, was the annual election meeting and featured a slate of five candidates running for three Board positions. In accordance with the bylaws, each candidate is given five minutes to address the meeting and make their case for election. Bob Bronner of Zephyr, Karin Fleming of Chatham, and Dennis O'Leary of Eaton spoke in person. George Earle of Yardley spoke via speaker phone and Kim Morton of Jefferson shared a letter of intent. Ballots were distributed with the exception of one absentee ballot. Judy Bradley of Ulster, Karl Grentz of Glenwood and Ed McFalls handled the tabulation. Karl Grentz announced the winners at the end of the business meeting. The winners were Bob Bronner, George Earle, and Dennis O'Leary.

Following the business meeting and election, the new Board of Directors met to organize the new Board. The bylaws require new officers must be elected within 10 days of the Master Association Annual Meeting which had just ended. Since at least one Board member would be away during the next two weeks, it was decided to hold the election on July 11. After discussion it was decided by unanimous vote that the new slate of officers would be as follows:

President: Karl Grentz
First Vice-President: Dennis O'Leary
Second Vice-President: Boyd Mackleer
Treasurer: Bob Bronner
Secretary: George Earle

The road work along Chandler Drive from Inverness to Devonshire is finished with some landscaping to be done. Also some road work along Chandler Drive in the area by Kennett and Vassar villages was completed.

(Cont'd on page 2)

From The Village President *(Cont'd from page 1)*

The elevator discussion will hopefully be completed with a signed contract between Weaver Construction and Hershey's Mill on Wednesday, October 2, 2019. There will be a meeting between Weaver, Architect Tom Daly, and the Board of Directors. If all goes according to schedule, the elevator work will begin in early January, 2020.

The Finance Committee of Inverness will hopefully have completed work on the 2020 budget by early October. The budget will be discussed at the next Inverness Village Open Meeting which will be held Wednesday, December 11.

Boyd Mackleer

(Editor's note: The President of the Board of Directors assigns liaisons to various amenity committees. Boyd has provided this list which is printed below.)

**Board of Directors
of the
Hershey's Mill Homeowners Association
1389 E. Boot Road West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380**

9/11/2019

Liaison Assignments

Master Association Members:

Here are the assignments for the Board of Directors regarding Committee coverage.

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Liaison</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>
Sullivan House	George Earle	Judy Molt
Wood Shop	George Earle	Bob Milano
Maintenance	George Earle	Norm Ricker
Major Projects	George Earle	TBD
Swimming Pool	Dennis O'Leary	Mike Bianco
Gardens	Dennis O'Leary	Ed Sweeney
Bus	Dennis O'Leary	Priscilla Burt
HMSG	Karl Grentz	John DeVol
Marketing	Karl Grentz	Jack Keeley
Players	Karl Grentz	Barbara Trimble
Technology	Karl Grentz	Sherry & Bill Kane
Landscape	Boyd Mackleer	Judy Bradley
Insurance	Boyd Mackleer	TBD
Library	Boyd Mackleer	Angela Linden
Document Review	Boyd Mackleer	Boyd Mackleer
Security	Bob Bronner	Bob Bronner
Finance	Bob Bronner	Bob Bronner
Community Center	Bob Bronner	Sharon Kope

Getting to Know You

I had a pleasant opportunity to meet and talk with **Harry Faust**, who is the new tenant in #699. The unit, which is a rental, has been extensively updated by the owner, and Harry has agreed to a two-year lease.

Harry moved here from the Eagle Rock community in Hazleton, where he had a multilevel chalet-type home. Incentives to move here included one-floor living and proximity to his daughter and granddaughter who live nearby.



Harry married Lynn, his high-school sweetheart, and they were blessed with two children. Their daughter, Heidi, is an oncology nurse and often sees patients in Hershey's Mill. Their son, Glenn, lives in Center Valley, PA, and is in medical sales. Unfortunately, Harry's wife passed away in 2008.

Upon graduating from high school, Harry was given a scholarship to play football as a half-back for Elon College (now Elon University). The coach had recruited other "coal country" players to form a championship team. Harry was one of the few to graduate in four years, having majored in business. He has a strong loyalty to Elon and goes back yearly to attend homecoming events.

Following graduation, Harry worked briefly for the Treasury Department, and spent a year on active duty with the National Guard. He then went to work as an insurance adjuster for a small company in this area, but was recruited by Amica to join their firm in Ambler. In his 35 years there, he advanced through a number of positions to become the manager of both the claims and underwriting divisions. Harry retired in 2000 and moved to Hazleton.

He was an active golfer until back problems limited his game, but does hope to give it another try. Join us in welcoming Harry.

George Colby

Mark Your Calendars!

Inverness Annual Ladies Luncheon
Saturday, November 2, at Noon
Hershey's Mill Golf Club

A great way to socialize with the ladies!

Inverness Holiday Gala
Friday, December 13, 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Community Center

A festive evening to mingle with neighbors and get into the holiday spirit.

More info on these events will follow.

Hershey's Mill Bowling League



Ed and Eileen at the Hershey's Mill Sports Group Expo in May

Ed and Eileen Isselmann (#715) chair the HM bowling group which bowls on Tuesdays at 10 AM at The Palace Lanes in Downingtown. Teams have formed for this year, but **subs are always needed**. If interested, contact Ed or Eileen at:

ejisselmann@gmail.com
eckisselmann@gmail.com

My Asian Adventure by Penny Zimmerman #729

It's been almost three years now since, in my capacity as a Global HR Business Partner for SAP, I set off for a 6-month assignment in Shanghai, China. China had recently relaxed their "one child" policy and suddenly there was an epidemic of pregnancies in the local HR department. They needed to call in reinforcements. So off I went to Shanghai.



I ended up living and working in Pudong, Shanghai's technology and financial center. My apartment building catered to expats and had a 24-hour English speaking concierge. This was life saving as they helped me navigate life in Shanghai. Thank goodness for apps like Google Translate, a taxi card app which translates addresses into Mandarin characters, and currency and weight conversion apps. I downloaded WeChat, a combination of Facebook and texting. Credit cards are rarely used. Instead everyone pays with WePay or AliPay, apps similar to Apple Pay that link directly to your bank account.

I was surprised at my ability to adapt to a new and unfamiliar culture and environment. I found local grocery stores that specialized in international and imported products. When I couldn't read labels, I texted (WeChat actually) pictures to my Chinese friends and asked them to translate. I learned to navigate the metro system; I couldn't

believe how many people actually squeeze into the metro during rush hour. You can't move your arms, you're packed in so tight.

I found a nondenominational church that had English speaking services on Sundays and joined one of their small groups. Through this church, I participated in a mission trip to Iliolo Iliolo in the Philippines that included food distribution, a make-shift medical clinic and Vacation Bible School. The poverty in the remote villages is heartbreaking. Local public transportation in the villages is the tricycle - either pedal or motorcycle. An average ride on a tricycle will cost you about 6 pesos or 12 cents.

As I explored Shanghai, I was struck sometimes by how much it is the same as home. Familiar stores in the malls, Halloween celebrations, Christmas trees and accessories on display (the Chinese don't even celebrate Christmas!), products on shelves in the stores. Then at other times, I was reminded I was halfway around the world in a different culture. (Ask me about squat toilets sometime!) What follows are some of my observations of the differences between a Western and Eastern culture.

The food in China (and in the other countries I visited) was an adventure. I went with the attitude that I would try anything once. I discovered lots of really yummy foods and some not-so-yummy foods. I sampled Peking duck, milkfish, dragon fruit, fresh mango in the Philippines, aloe soup, candied hawthorn on a stick, dumplings, hot pot, lotus root and Biang Biang noodles (yummy) as well as curly fungus, eel, goose liver, sea cucumber, duck tongue, fish bladder, pig stomach, chicken feet, coagulated duck blood, tarantula, scorpion and crickets (not-so-yummy). Seafood was often purchased alive in the markets and served with head and fins intact. Don't be fooled. The food you find at the local Chinese restaurant in no way resembles real Chinese cuisine.



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I became painfully aware of how orderly and structured the American culture is compared to Asian cultures. You walk on the right, pass on the left. You stand in line and wait your turn. In China it's a free for all. Sometimes the up escalator is on the right. Sometimes it's on the left. Walking on the sidewalks, streets, hallways - people pass on both sides. I couldn't figure out which way to go. Mopeds, bicycles, motorcycles sometimes move with pedestrians, sometimes with cars, sometimes just wherever and whenever they want. In the US pedestrians have the right of way. Not so in China. It's a showdown between car and pedestrian. The light turns, the "walk" signal comes on, and you step off the curb. If there is a car making a turn, you better get out of the way or they'll run you over. And, oh by the way, the motor bikes often don't use lights at night to save battery charge. You need to stay alert at all times.

Everyone has a smart phone and everyone is looking at it *all the time*. There is an app for everything. You call a taxi with an app, you order dinner with an app. Despite this, there are public phone booths everywhere. I'm not sure who uses them.

"Hi lady. You want watch? Come look." "Hey lady. You want bag? Come look." The markets are huge spaces, most often inside but not always, with hundreds of vendors. They're overwhelming mazes. If you see something you like, don't think you'll look around and come back because you'll never find your way back; every stall looks the same after a while. And there are markets for specific types of products - fabric, pearls, flowers, antiques, even a bird, fish and insect market. Negotiating price is a game I got very good at.



In Shanghai I visited temples, strolled through the streets of Tian Zi Fang and Yu Gardens, had dinner on the Bund and cruised on the Huangpu River. People's Park is a fun place to wander around on a sunny afternoon - a pretty park with lots of green in the middle of the city. The interesting thing about People's Park is the matchmaking that happens there. Concerned grandparents will take "resumes" of their unattached grandchildren and tape them to umbrellas, which they set along the paths in the park. Other grandparents then shop for mates for their grandchildren.

I made several trips to Beijing for business (and pleasure). The pollution in Beijing is unbelievable. There were frequent air quality warnings. Visibility was awful and you could smell the pollution. In all 5 Asian countries that I visited, I observed a lack of concern for the environment. Government regulations are in place (at least in China) but they're often not enforced. People throw trash on the ground even when there is a trash can within a few feet. There are always workers out sweeping and cleaning streets and public places but as fast as they clean, people litter.



I visited Xi'an, another of China's ancient capitals, with a friend from Beijing. We rode bikes on the ancient city wall, visited many historic sites including, of course, the terracotta warriors. We ate street food and lots of local cuisine.

The Chinese (Lunar) New Year is celebrated at the end of January and businesses generally shut down for the week. I signed up for a trip to Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand. I arrived in Ho Chi Minh City and visited, among other places, the Reunification Palace where I learned about the Vietnam War (or as they

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call it, the American War) from a Vietnamese perspective. In the Mekong Delta I tasted snake wine (which isn't really wine at all but more like whiskey). In Phnom Penh, Cambodia we visited the killing fields, mass graves from executions conducted by the Khmer Rouge. The Cambodian countryside is beautiful, but the degree of poverty is heartbreaking.

Then on to Siem Reap, one of my favorite places in SE Asia. It is a small bustling city with outdoor markets, great food, night life and easy to get around. No taxis anywhere - just tuk tuks - modern day rickshaws powered by scooters. Angkor Wat and a dozen other nearby ancient temples attract lots of visitors. Some have been restored. Others have been left "as is". They are all breathtaking! Our last stop was Bangkok where I had a one-hour massage for the equivalent of \$8.56 and a pedicure for \$5.70.

I loved the local markets in all 3 countries. They were a fun experience, a real taste of local culture and a chance to hone my negotiating skills. In addition to bugs and insects, I sampled wild boar, some great curry, pad thai and sticky rice. I was really touched by the personal stories of some of the local people I met. These people have seen unbelievable hardship but they are survivors. I am in awe of them.



Spending 6 months in China was exhausting. Everything took more energy and effort, mostly because of the language barrier and transportation. The crowds and noise created constant overstimulation of the senses. I don't miss the crowds, especially in the metro, the hacking and spitting that you hear and see everywhere and all the cigarette smoke. I do miss some of the amazing food and the lasting friendships that I formed.

Things at work changed while I was gone. Our office space was completely redone - new cubicles, new configurations and new faces in the office, among other things. I had to catch up on what happened at church since I left and resume my activities and responsibilities there. I now understand why repatriation is so hard. You come home expecting everything to be the same as when you left, but life doesn't stop while you're gone. I had to catch up.

I got off the plane in Shanghai feeling nauseous and wondering what in the world I had gotten myself into. It wasn't always easy or fun but it was a truly amazing experience that I would not trade for the world. I learned so much about another culture, people and about myself. I came home with a renewed determination to simplify my life. I spent 6 months in an 800 sq. ft. apartment with possessions that fit into 3 suitcases and I didn't miss a thing. I returned to my 4-bedroom home filled with "stuff" and realized I didn't need most of it. Fast forward 2 years later and I've gotten rid of much of my "stuff", sold my house and moved to Hershey's Mill! Now I'm looking forward to my next adventure, whatever that might be.

Ladies Luncheon

Inverness ladies enjoyed a long festive lunch at McKenzie's in late August. Choosing from a varied menu, they ordered crab cake, pork, and chicken sliders, Cobb salads, sandwiches, wraps and soups. Mc Kenzie's obliged by altering some of the dishes to accommodate personal preferences. The service was perfect and individual checks were issued, as usual. At the end of two hours, the party was still ongoing as the ladies reconnected after the summer.

Article and Photography by Carol Ellis



Terry Marran, Mary Widdowson, Eileen Isselmann



Judy Pedrick, Judy Klanderan, Tre Carrone, Marge Brolly



Jean Norsworthy, Carol Ellis



BJ Rodgers, Dorrie Ritchie



Barbara Poole, Bev Cella



Kathy Threlkeld, Marge Hill



Mary Lou Perry, Sue Kelleher, Theresa DeCosta



Ginny Kettenring, Nancy Schwab

PASTIMES BENEFITING GOOD WORKS

On occasion, we have written about the hobbies/pastimes of various residents. I recently had occasion to visit the home (#759) of **Iris Fairbairn** and her daughter **Eileen Gradwell** and thought it would be fun to share what their interests are.

Quilting has occupied Iris's time for over 30 years. She showed me a darling small-size quilt that she was preparing to give to a new great-grandchild. Just the face of the dog would make you giggle! She also had a lovely full-size quilt in a traditional pattern in beautiful pastel colors.

A major focus of her time is a weekly gathering at her home of a few women from her church. They have the benefit of a large wooden quilt frame so that the women could all be doing the hand quilting at the same time on the one quilt. (With new technologies and a new direction of more decorative quilts, hand quilting is becoming more rare.)



One could not help but observe the bond that had developed among the women and to think about over the centuries how the women's lives would become enriched and intertwined through the art of and sometimes the necessity of creating quilts.

Read about Eileen's extracurricular activity on page 10 of this issue.

Barbara Colby



Wine and Cheese Party - September 13

The Community Center was festively decorated as party-goers to the Wine and Cheese Party were greeted with tables covered in autumn-colored cloths topped with wine bottles containing red candles. There were nine varieties of cheese, grape kebabs, hummus and carrots, pepperoni, and a selection of delicious crackers. The wine table offered five white wines and four red wines. Although the party was a 5 to 7 affair, everyone enjoyed reconnecting after the summer and stayed on. The Wine and Cheese party was chaired by **Marge Brolly** and **Carol Ellis** and hosted by the Inverness Social Committee.



Wine Cork Centerpiece

Carol Ellis



Chris Genter, Boyd & Judy Mackleer, BJ Rodgers



Joe Carrone, Jim Aubry, Jim & Carol Ellis, Ed Isselmann, John Brolly



Mary Lou Perry, Penny Zimmerman, George & Barbara Colby



Alma & Tom Delaney, Dodie Galbusera, Lydia Voigt, Jo Ann & Paul Kincade



Marney Roia, Philip Banks, Ginny Kettenring



Louise DeNight, Joan Gallagher, Nancy Schwab, Judy Nestel, Kathy Threlkeld, Judy Pedrick

MEDICAL AND HUMANITARIAN MISSION TO MALAWI

A number of years ago, prior to moving here, our neighbor, **Eileen Gradwell (#759)**, while employed as a Senior Director with Biogen, became involved with a charitable organization called "Villages in Partnership" (VIP), headquartered in Allentown, NJ. Their mission is to build partnerships between villages in the developed world and villages in Malawi, Africa, to bring about life-changing improvements for all. Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world and desperately in need of support.

VIP is unique in that the focus is on a "hands up, not a handout" approach to development. They work with local experts to help the villagers gain access to clean water, health care, food security, education and basic economic opportunities.

Eileen is a member of the board and makes at least a week-long trip once a year to give of her time and talents. As a registered nurse, she helps run one of the biannual medical and dental mission trips. Since poverty is rampant, Eileen (second from left in photo) and several women from this area sew very elementary dresses for the little girls which light up the recipient's eyes when she presents them. The pattern is simple and a dress can be readily completed in an hour! How rewarding!



In the photo at the right, Eileen who is just back from Malawi, is shown with part of her triage team of 24 who worked alongside a team of Malawian providers and nurses to treat over 5500 patients. It is a fabulous photo which can be seen in color on the HM website. Also, Eileen has a wonderfully detailed brochure if you contact her.

It "knocked my socks off" to hear in depth about this phenomenal project. Go to villagesinpartnership.org to learn more about this organization.

Perhaps you would like to sew a dress or two, or participate in some way by dedicating time, talent or treasure to this international charitable endeavor.

Barbara Colby

Upcoming Events - Hershey's Mill

Movies at the Community Center
3rd Monday of every month at 7 PM
Oct. 21 movie is *Walk the Line*
For more info: lynneurian@yahoo.com

Inverness Ladies Luncheon
Saturday, November 2
Hershey's Mill Golf Club

Tree of Stars and Hershey's Mill Tree Lighting
Saturday, December 7, 6:30 PM
HM Community Center
Sponsored by the Paoli Hospital Auxiliary
(Includes visit from Santa, treats, the
Hershey's Mill Singers and singing carols!)

Inverness Village Open Meeting
Wednesday, December 11
Refreshments at 7:00 PM
Business Meeting 7:30 PM
HM Community Center

Inverness Holiday Gala
Friday, December 13, 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM
HM Community Center

Hershey's Mill Singers Concert
Saturday, December 14, evening
Sunday, December 15, afternoon
SS Peter and Paul Church, Boot Road

Local Area Events of Interest

Household Hazardous Waste Event
Saturday, October 12, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Government Services Center
601 Westtown Road, West Chester
NO ELECTRONICS ACCEPTED
Details in East Goshen Fall 2019 Newsletter

E-Recycling Event
Saturday, November 9, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
East Goshen Township Park
Details in East Goshen Fall 2019 Newsletter

Past issues of *The Inverness "I"* can be accessed
from the Hershey's Mill website:

www.hersheysmill.org

Go to the "Villages" tab and click on "Inverness"
Scroll down and you will see a link to previous is-
sues of the newsletter.

The online newsletter is now in full color.

Inverness Directory Updates

Please welcome our new resident:

Harry Faust - # 699
Cell Phone:
Email: hf55e@pa.metrocast.net

*Please contact Mary Lou Perry if you have any
changes to your Inverness directory listing.*

[\(perrym517@gmail.com\)](mailto:perrym517@gmail.com).

In Memoriam

Drinda Burkhart (#692)

September 1, 2019

*Our sincere condolences to Scott
and his family.*

Inverness Village Council Members

President	Boyd Mackleer
Vice President	Wilbur Amand
Secretary	Barbara Atmore
Treasurer	Tom Delaney
At Large	Janet Emanuel
Managing Agents	Janet Burgess Caroline DeCray

The Inverness "I" Staff

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Happy Halloween!